THE EXAMINER.

No. 153 SUNDAY, DEC. 2, 1810.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 149.

KING'S ILLNESS.

According to the public anticipation, not indeed from the Bulletins, but from certain pleasing and natural speculations, his MAJESTY grew better in the middle of the week; the Parliament met again; Mr. PERCEVAL and my Lord LIVERPOOL delivered their minds; and the Parliament again adjourned for a fortnight. On Saturday, it seems, his MAJESTY was not quite so well; but this is an after matter. The ground upon which the Parliament adjourned was the favourable appearance of his MAJESTY's disorder, and this appearance was gathered from the opinions of the Royal Physicians in their examination before the Privy Council, so that the information which directed the proceedings of the two Estates, upon a point of vital importance to the nation, came to them by a third hand; it is read to them by their Clerk, who takes it from the Privy Council, who hear it from the Physicians. All this excites astonishment in the uninitiated. They desire to know who assembled the Privy Council; what that Council has to do with such matters; and above all, what pretence any paper or examination arising from their meeting has to influence the proceedings of the Parliament. But how vain is such a curiosity? They might as well desire to know who gave the regal authority to the persons calling themselves the King's advisers;—what these persons have to do with the question of a Regency; and above all, what pretence any statement of their's has to influence the proceedings of a national body or even to meet with the smallest credit. There is no end to such speculations: wit itself has not remoter pertinencies or more inexhaustible combinations than the discoveries into which they plunge. By pursuing questions like these, you may trace up the disorders of the state to a Citizen's appetite, or to the over-exercise of a man's powers, or to the inordinate admiration of a wig:—the oracles of Parliament, like those of the Sybils of old, will be found to owe their powers of persuasion to the place on which they sit, being nothing but ordinary minds or old women when they are not there; in a word, you may read the very identical history of all our sufferings, past, present, or to come, in the hereby's and hereafters of the Septennial Act.

But without wasting our time in these pursuits, and without deigning to sift the interested discussions that pretend to be so grave, so delicate, and so profound, on the present subject, let us look at it a little with the eyes of dispassionate men sitting by their firesides,—a place, where among the middle and perhaps not very profound classes of people, Truth is most found, because she is most welcome. We are desired to believe, that the question of the Regency is a very difficult one, and that it is to be settled only by a profusion of arguments, quotations, and precedents. This is always the way, when political deception is intended; and it is curious to observe, how completely, in the discussions that have passed on the subject, all plain common reasoning,—all plain appeal to the common sense and to the nature of circumstances, has been omitted, as if by general consent; at least, with the exception of one or two persons, to whom the "delicate" and "grave" Politicians make a point of not attending. Yet never was so important a question,—a question whether the want of our Executive Power shall or shall not be supplied,—capable of so easy a solution. The only two points to be considered regard his Majesty, firstly, as a person suffering under infirmity, and secondly, as a Chief Magistrate unable to perform the duties of his office. These considerations involve each other. The report of the Physicians, we are told, is "favourable." But what is meant by "favourable?" His MAJESTY, it is said, is better than he was; that is to say, he is not in the worst of all possible situations; he eats and drinks; he has the faculties of life; in short, he is not absolutely in a dying state; and on this account, it seems, as well as from their *experience*, the Physicians have "very confident hopes" of his recovery. But when these gentlemen talk of their experience, do they mean to tell us that they have had much experience in cases attended with so many peculiar circumstances? They may have had a great deal of experience in cases of insanity generally speaking, and in cases of this kind of insanity, particularly speaking; but have *many* of their patients been in his MAJESTY's situation with regard to age and it's infirmities? Have *many* of their patients been deaf, and blind, and otherwise incapable, *when well*, of performing the duties required of persons in office? If they have had many patients of this kind, how many of them,—how many of these unfortunate persons, so old and so infirm, have in fact recovered? And lastly, if many of them have in fact recovered,—a circumstance at best most improbable,—how many of them have been able, on the return of their health, to hear, see, and act like other men? How many recovered their hearing and their eyesight, and were in a condition to receive applications, to examine writings, and in consequence of that examination, to sign them. Now, if it were only on account of his MAJESTY's bodily infirmities, which did not then exist, the question respecting the Regency in 1788 would have nothing to do with the present one. At that time, the KING was compara-

tively young, and he was hale, promised to live long, had had his hearing and eyesight; but he is nothing of this now; so that if he were to regain his mental faculties, it does not follow that he would regain his powers of government; it does not follow that he could sign the necessary warrants for financial and other purpoes, or that, granting it was allowable in him to sign with his eyes shut, he could even hear the papers read: and it does not follow, therefore, that it would not be a positive kindness to his old age to relieve it from duties, which it might be both improper and impossible for it to perform. It was conceding a good deal already, and a mark of the liberality of a free people, not to have sooner interfered upon these grounds; for it is well known, that long before his MAJESTY'S present illness, he had lost his sight. His hand-writing, which used to be bold and correct, not only became at times illegible, but his signature was often deficient in its letters, and wandered out of the paper. The placemen, the courtiers, the dependents upon great men, and *all those*, will call the publication of such a fact, *indelicate*,—a shocking thing, to say the KING is blind. Alas, there is no end to difference of opinion. These gentlemen think the very mention of royal blindness, a horrible want of feeling; but when they hear the Minister attacked for deadly expeditions, in which thousands of eyes are blinded, mangled, and shot away, they are the first to defend him, and to wonder at objections so frivolous!

In the year 1788, considering the bodily vigour of the King, it may have been right, for a certain time, to agree to a suspension of the executive power; and it might be so now, for a few days; for it is one of the beauties of a free constitution, that it can relax itself so far without danger; and in the proper, friendly sympathies between King and people, it seems but reasonable and humane to allow the possessor of office a little time to recover his fitness for it, provided there is a prospect of such recovery, and no immediate danger can arise from the permission. It is the people, or at least it is supposed to be the people, who on this occasion resume the sovereignty of the State; and therefore the principle is a good and a free one. But as precedents change with circumstances, so does the reasonableness of indulgence. Times are not as they were twenty years ago: the King is worn out with age; our pressures are not only severe but afflicting; the nation is threatened with enemies abroad, with additional pressures at home, and with the convulsive death of the finance; our Ministers, to say the very best of them, shew no disposition to conciliate, to reform, or to grow decently wise and liberal; and the corruptions of the Representation are become so grossly manifest, and indeed so triumphant in the acknowledgment as well as practice of parties in power, that nothing is left for the Constitution to relax. The Ministers relax it or not just as they please. They reign to all intents and purposes; and the Restriction Bill *continues* now to be suspended, not because the people are willing it should be, or because it is necessary, liberal, or otherwise fitting to continue the suspension, but literally because these few individuals wish to preserve their places to the last moment.

That there should be a Regency, therefore, is doubted by no thinking and disinterested persons, who consider the state of the Ministry, of the King, and of the Nation. Who should be Regent is another question; and it appears hardly to admit of a constitutional doubt, that the Parliament, granting that it speaks the voice of the people, has a right to elect whom it pleases; for while the Monarch lives and is recognized, the Prince is a mere subject like one of us. But then, in justice both to a Prince's natural hopes, and to the natural wishes of the people in his favour, excellent and urgent reasons ought to be given for setting him aside; and there seems not the shadow of an excuse for so doing in regard to the Prince of WALES. That the present Ministry should think of putting up a Regent of their own, must be too preposterous even for themselves to expect; and though by the long weakness of Parliament and the disgust which their rivals have created, they are still enabled to hold out, yet they have no prospects to sustain them much longer; and unless a new meeting of Parliament brings with it a new turn in the King's disorder of a clearer description than the past, the Prince cannot fail to succeed to power, as he reasonably ought. This is due not only to his own expectations, but to those of the people; I say the people's expectation, not because they are already inclined to flatter him, but because they know the experience he has had, and give his understanding and his heart the common credit of a wish to profit by it. Mr. COBBETT, who, to judge by his alarm at the thought of going to prison, and his miserable attempt to avoid it, would be in extacies to avail himself of an Act of Grace, may talk about the Prince's reputation for "*all the amiable and manly virtues*," and panegyrize the men of "*talent*" and "*integrity*," by whom he has been surrounded, that is to say, by the very persons whom the said COBBETT has been calling all sorts of names for years past; but those who look to the Prince for an alleviation of their burdens and a discountenance of State corruption, ought to be frank with him in order that they may not deserve disappointment. They have observed with watchful pleasure the retirement in which he has lately kept himself, and would willingly people it with images of fair promise—of thought, of virtue, and of future reputation. They therefore expect something of him, not because they idolize him like an untried youth, or forget his errors, or are delighted with the cast of politicians about him; but because the principles of his adherents are more congenial to the Constitution than those of the rival school, and do him credit for having adopted them in preference; because the obstinate and bigoted policy of the present Administration already makes him shine by contrast; and above all, because the English nation, who have behaved most generously to him, deserve

return the paternal exercise of his best feelings towards them.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, NOVEMBER 23.

LETTER FROM THE MARSHAL PRINCE OF ESSLING, TO HIS SERENE HIGHNESS THE MAJOR-GENERAL.

"*Head-quarters at Alenquer, Nov. 3.*

"MONSEIGNEUR,—Your Highness has doubtless received the letters which I had the honour to write to you from Viseu and Coimbra.

"After having, on the 13th, 14th, and 15th ult. well reconnoitred the enemy shut up in his entrenched camp on the heights of Lisbon, I wrote you a long letter; but I have reason to think that it has not reached you.

"I every day offer battle to the enemy, but he keeps himself shut up in his entrenchments.

"I am just sending Gen. Foy, with 200 men, in order to give a line of direction to my division of the rear-guard, commanded by Gen. Gardanne, and to the 9th corps, which is at this moment on the frontiers of Portugal. My orders to Gen. Foy are, that upon arriving at Almeida he should leave his escort there, and proceed to Paris with all dispatch, in order to give your Highness those details which you may wish on the situation of the army, and true information with regard to the ridiculous articles which we have seen here in the London newspapers. There is only one word to oppose to these reports;—it is, that they are ALL A FABRICATION.

"The army is in a good condition. Every one rivals another in ardour and zeal, and burns with a desire to distinguish himself, and to merit the approbation of the Emperor. I am, with respect, &c. "The Marshal Prince of ESSLING."

(FROM THE MONITEUR.)

"The General of Brigade, Foy, arrived this day in Paris. He set out from the head-quarters of the Prince of Essling on the 4th November. He traversed Portugal with an escort of 200 dragoons.

"He brings satisfactory news of the situation of our army. He contradicts entirely the false accounts of every kind which the English take pleasure in disseminating in every shape.

"Our army is *abundantly provided*. Bread, meat, rice, wine, rum, and even sugar and coffee, were in great abundance. *There were found upon the Tagus provisions of every description:* rice arrived from America, Colonial produce, and a great quantity of corn. The enemy had destroyed all the mills, which circumstance, for some days, obliged the army to live upon rice and white beans; but, since the 20th of October, the mills have been re-established in sufficient number to grind thrice the quantity necessary for the consumption of the army. A great many cattle have also been found. According to the accounts given by Gen. Foy, the conduct of the English in the country is inconceivable. They have entirely laid waste, burnt, and destroyed 70 leagues of territory; a circumstance which shews to the Continent the fate it would experience, if they should ever obtain any influence here. Portugal has been treated like Bengal, after the Indian fashion (*a l'Indienne*).

"As for the rest, the English occupy, at the gates of Lisbon, a strong position covered with redoubts, in which they have collected cannon of every kind that they could procure.—The Prince of Essling drove them at the point of the bayonet from Almeida to the capital, that is to say, for a space of 80 leagues. No obstacle has retarded his march. It is to this rapidity it is owing that the fine valley of the Tagus has remained untouched, and the enemy had not an opportunity of ravaging and burning it, and *which assures the subsistence of the army for four or five months.*

"The Prince of Essling has thrown a bridge over the Zezere, *two têtes de pont*, which are impregnable. He has also collected his magazines at Santarem, which he is fortifying; and has marked out the positions, to put it out of danger of *a coup de main*, for the purpose of assuring his communication with his strong places.

"The English have a *great many sick*. There are also *a great number of English deserters*, while there is *not one deserter from the French army*. Every thing that has been published in the English papers upon this subject, and a supposed *famine*, which, if we are to believe them, has lasted more than two months, are so many idle tales invented to divert the people of England from the alarms which they have conceived respecting the fate of the English army.

"There have been ten days rain, but the weather is now become very fine. Our army has very few sick. Our cavalry is principally fed on Indian corn, of which there is great plenty: the horses are in good condition.

"The entrenched camp of the English before Lisbon makes their position respectable; but it requires to be defended by 40 or 50,000 British troops.

"The English fleet, with an immense number of transports, is anchored in the Tagus. The population of the whole north of Portugal is assembled at Lisbon; in consequence of which an immense number of people are collected there, which is productive of great disorder and *a dreadful famine*.

"As the General of Brigade, Lacroix, was walking on the banks of the Tagus at Villa Franca with a friend, he was cut in two by a cannon-shot. This young General Officer was of great promise, and his death is much regretted. The prisoners on each side have been exchanged."

NEWS FROM THE ARMIES IN SPAIN.

SIEGE OF CADIZ.—In the night of the 28th and 29th of September, 4 or 5000 of the enemy attempted an attack upon the centre of the besieging army, occupying the lines of Arrecisse. The enemy was overthrown, and forced to re-enter his lines, without being able to succeed in his plan for destroying our advanced works; he left the field of battle covered with dead, and arms thrown away. We had seven men killed, and about twenty wounded. The immense labours for the investment of the road and Isle of Leon are proceeding. The engineers and artillery are emulous in their efforts; the works have acquired such strength, that the greatest success may soon be expected. More than 300 cannon of large calibre are mounted. The artillery have cast at Seville mortars of a new invention, which throw bombs to a distance of more than 2000 toises (12,000 feet). A numerous flotilla has been created, in spite of all obstacles. The Trocadero is become an important post, and a fortress able to sustain a siege. Puerto Real and Chiclana are in a state of formidable defence.

EXPEDITION AGAINST MALAGA.—On the 14th October, an English squadron, consisting of two seventy-fours, 4 frigates, and three brigs, with four gun-boats, and seven transports, appeared in sight of Fuengirola, a small fort to the west of Malaga. At four o'clock they anchored, and commenced a brisk cannonade on the fort. Soon after a disembarkation commenced at Cala del Moral. The English squadron landed the 82d and 89th English regiments of the line; and the Spanish regiment of Toledo, in all 5000 men, under the orders of Lord Blaney. On the morning of the 15th, all the heights surrounding the fort were covered with troops, and a battery of five pieces was erected at the distance of 150 toises. The English General sent a summons to surrender; Captain Mlokosiewicz, who commanded the garrison, refused to listen to the flag of truce. The fire of the battery and squadron was then directed against the fort; but General Sebastiani having assembled 3000 men, marched against the enemy, attacked, and overthrew him. The garrison of the fort seconded this movement by an impetuous sally, and carried the barrier which the enemy had erected against it. The English and Spaniards fled in disorder towards the beach. The fire of the fort sunk several gun-boats loaded with troops, and of the regiments that were landed some remnants alone were able to re-embark. The enemy left the field of battle strewed with their dead, among which were found 250 English; several hundred soldiers of

that nation were made prisoners, together with Colonels, Officers of the Staff, and Lord Blaney, who commanded the expedition. Five pieces of cannon were taken, besides a great many tools, chests filled with cartridges, &c.—The last accounts from Andalusia are of the 10th. The army is in good health. *The Duke of Dalmatia has detached the 5th corps, and sent it upon the Tagus.*

Murcia.—*October.*—Blake, who was sent from Cadiz into Murcia, has nothing of an army; but he has collected some thousand peasants, who do not deserve the name of soldiers. Guarda, Cordova, Jaen, and all Andalusia, are tranquil. Our troops are in the midst of abundance. Since the cessation of the heats there are no longer any sick. On the 1st Nov. there was scarcely one soldier entering the hospitals for ten who left them.

Navarre.—*October* and *November.*—This kingdom is tranquil since General Reille assumed the Government. He has cleared the country of more than 2000 brigands.

General Dumontier, with six regiments of fusileers of the Guards, and the *lanciers* of Berg, has gone to Valladolid, to join the other corps of the guards which are there, and to form a reserve to Gen. Dronet, which will amount to 20,000 chosen troops, including the two regiments of fusileers which passed through Vittoria on the 15th.

The Asturias and Province of Saint Andero.—*October* and *November.*—Towards evening of the 23d of October, a squadron anchored in the Roads of St. Andero; it consisted of 4 frigates, one of which was Spanish, 3 brigs, 2 schooners, 4 gun-boats, 30 transports; in all 43 sail.—On the 24th and 25th, the ships of war were forced to stand off, leaving the transports in the Roads: the storm increasing, the Spanish frigate lost its anchors, and was driven on the rocks of Lavedo, where it perished; an English brig and 4 Spanish gun-boats met the same fate. The troops on board, and the crews, form a loss of about 1200 men to the enemy.—In spite of these disasters, the ships of war having again made their appearance, the enemy wished to effect a landing on the 27th. At one in the afternoon, the troops were embarked in boats; 3 gun-boats advanced at their head to endeavour to clear the beach with grape-shot. The first demi-brigade awaited them with steadiness, and a land battery near Santona having soon opened a flanking fire on the boats, there remained for them nothing but retreat. The English Commodore made signal for re-embarking. At five, the wind having freshened, the flotilla disappeared, bearing away to the north; from that moment, tempests did not cease assailing this unfortunate expedition. The accounts of the 1st of November announced, that remains of the transports were on the coast of Plencbia and Anchoma; they were taken possession of; they were found laden with troops, military stores, artillery, ammunition, &c. Other transports have entered the ports which we occupy, and have been taken, with their lading, and the men who were on board. Of all this expedition, the English frigates alone were able to save themselves; one of them, however, which was very roughly treated by our batteries, must with difficulty have weathered the successive storms which lasted for several days. It is probable that she is lost; there has been no news of her.

SPAIN.

DECREE OF THE CORTES, RESPECTING THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

The general and extraordinary Cortes, considering that the individual right of Citizens to publish their thoughts and political ideas is not only a barrier to the arbitrary power of those who govern, but also the means of enlightening the nation in general, and the only way of arriving at the knowledge of what is truly the public opinion, have decreed as follows:—

I. All public bodies and private individuals, of whatever condition and estate they may be, have the liberty of writing, printing, and publishing their political ideas, without the necessity of any licence, revision, or approbation previous to publication, under the restrictions and responsibility laid down in the present Decree.

II. For these reasons, all the existing tribunals of the press, and the censorship of political works previous to their being printed, are from this time forth abolished.

III. Authors and printers shall be respectively responsible for the abuse of this liberty.

IV. Defamatory libels, calumnious writings, those subversive of the fundamental laws of the monarchy, those that are licentious and contrary to public decorum and morals, shall be punished by points of law which shall be prescribed for that purpose.

V. The Judges and respective tribunals in the investigation, proof, and punishment of offences committed by an abuse of the Liberty of the Press, shall take care to conduct themselves by what is laid down in the laws, and in this regulation.

VI. All writings *on matters of religion*, remain subject to the previous censorship of the *Ecclesiastical Ordinaries*, according to what is laid down by the Council of Trent.

VII. Authors, under which appellation are comprehended the Editor, or he who has corrected the original manuscript, are not obliged to put their names to the writings which they publish, though they do not cease on this account to remain subject to the same responsibility. It ought, therefore, to be known to the Printer, who is the author or editor of the work, otherwise he shall suffer the punishment which would attach to the author or editor, if known.

VIII. Printers shall be obliged to put their names and qualities, and the place and year of impression on every thing they print, whatever be its size; it being understood, that a falsehood in any of these particulars shall be punished as well as their positive omission.

IX. Authors or Editors, who, abusing the Liberty of the Press, contravene the laws, shall not only suffer the punishment there laid down, according to the magnitude of the offence, but both that and the punishment inflicted on them shall be published with their names in the *Government Gazette*.

X. The printers of works, or writings, which are declared innocent, or not injurious, shall be punished with a fine of 50 ducats, in case they omit their names, or any other requisite pointed out in the 8th Article.

XI. The printers of writings prohibited in Article IV. who shall have omitted their names, or any other circumstances already specified, shall suffer, over and above the fine on that account, the same punishments as the authors.

XII. The printers of writings on matters of religion, without the licence of the Ordinaries, shall be liable to the fine imposed upon them, without prejudice to those penalties which are already laid down against any excess in this respect.

XIII. To secure the Liberty of the Press, and at the same time to restrain its abuse, the Cortes shall appoint *a Supreme Junta of Censorship*, which must reside with the Government, composed of nine individuals, and, upon their proposition, a similar Junta shall be established in the capital of every province, to consist of five Members.

XIV. Three of the nine Members of this Supreme Junta of Censorship shall be Ecclesiastics, as also two out of the five of the Provincial Juntas, and the others shall be seculers, all well-instructed persons, possessed of probity and virtue, and the necessary talents for discharging the serious duty entrusted to them.

XV. It shall be their duty to examine the works which the executive power or separate tribunals may have *denounced*; and if the Censorial Junta of the Province think fit that they should be *prohibited*, the Judges shall do so, and shall collect the copies that have been sold.

XVI. The author or printer may demand a copy of the censure, and reply to it. If the Junta confirm its first censure, the interested person shall have a right to demand that the affair be transmitted to the Supreme Junta.

XVII. The author or printer may solicit the Supreme Junta to revise the affair a first and even a second time, in order that they may ascertain his motives. If the last opinion of the Su-

preme Junta be against the work, it shall be prohibited without further examination; but if in approbation, the work may be put in circulation.

XVIII. When the Censorial Junta of a Province, in pursuance of the law, declare that the work only contains personal injuries, it shall be prohibited, and the aggrieved person may have recourse to a competent tribunal for deciding on the same according to the laws.

XIX. Though books on religion cannot be printed without a licence from the Ordinary, the latter cannot refuse this without previous examination, and hearing the person interested.

XX. If the Ordinary, however, should persevere in refusing a licence, the interested person may apply to the Supreme Junta, who shall examine the work; and if it be fit for approval, shall transmit their opinion to the Ordinary, in order that, being more enlightened on the subject, he may grant a licence if he think fit, for the purpose of avoiding farther applications.

SWEDEN.

Stockholm, Nov. 1.—The ceremony of the presentation of his Royal Highness the Hereditary Prince (Bernadotte) took place this day with the greatest solemnity, in presence of the assembled Members of the Diet.—His Royal Highness pronounced an address, which, after expressing his gratitude to the King, the Nobility, Clergy, and Peasantry, for the high and distinguished honour conferred upon him, concluded as follows:—

"It is, however, to you all, faithful Representatives of the Swedish nation, that I address myself. The King deigned to propose me as successor to the throne; you confirmed that choice by an election free and unanimous, and his Majesty this day indissolubly binds the ties which already attachane to you. So many favours, such esteem and confidence, impose on me the greatest obligations; I feel them sensibly, and am firmly resolved to fulfil them. Bred in camps, I bring you a frank and loyal soul, an absolute devotedness to the King my august Father, an ardent desire to do every thing for the happiness of my new country; with such intentions I hope to do good.—Sound policy, that alone which the laws of God authorise, must have for its basis justice and truth; such are the principles of the King: they shall also be mine. I have beheld war close at hand; I know all its ravages; there is no conquest which can console a country for the blood of its children shed in a foreign land. I have seen the great Emperor of the French, so often crowned with the laurels of victory, surrounded with his invincible army, sigh after the olive of peace. Yes, Gentlemen, peace is the alone glorious object of a wise and enlightened Goverment; it is not the extent of a state which constitutes its force and independence; it is its laws, its industry, its commerce, and above all, its national spirit.—Sweden, it is true, has sustained great losses; but the honour of the Swedish name has not suffered the least attaint. Let us submit, Gentlemen, to the decrees of Providence; and let us recollect that it has left us a soil sufficient to supply our wants, and iron to defend it."

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Brighton.—About half after three o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday week, the village of Seddlescom was alarmed by the appearance of a phenomenon, rarely observed on land, but well known at sea by the denomination of a water spout. A cloud was observed to ascend with rapid whirls to a considerable height, and there burst with a tremendous but peculiarly-sounding crash, totally dissimilar from the usual noise of thunder. The explosion was followed by the fall of several pieces of earth, a heavy shower of hail, and all the awful and magnificent scenery of a storm. Similar phenomena have been seen in other parts of the country.

A Mermaid.—A letter from Monmouth, dated the 12th instant, says,—"About eight o'clock yesterday morning two fishermen going down the river in their truckles, fishing for salmon, found their nets much heavier than usual; and, on coming to shore, they found it contained a large monster, the upper part bearing the exact resemblance of a man, the middle of a beast, spotted like a leopard, and a tail like a fish, the hair on his head green—he has red eyes, and tusks five inches and a half in length, and measures from head to tail, 13 feet and three quarters. He is now deposited in the Town Hall, for the inspection of the curious."

A Medical Sportsman, near Canterbury, leaping a small fence, while the harriers were *questing* after unsuccessfully drawing several covers, unluckily cracked a phial of strong *anniseed* mixture, which he had put in his pocket to leave at the house of a patient. His horse taking fright at the crash, ran away immediately—and the pack, scenting the anniseed, dashed off, in *full cry*, in pursuit of the Doctor; for whose personal safety the field felt considerable alarm, as the dogs ran with uncommon eagerness. The huntsman at length headed the hounds, and terminated this extraordinary chance.

A Serjeant of Marines lately absconded from the Barracks at Stonehouse, carrying off with him 1500l.

Last week an inquest was taken at Minchinampton, on the body of Joseph Peglar, a fine youth, about 18 years of age, whose death was occasioned by rather a singular accident. He was attempting to fire a pistol, which, as it would not remain upon the cock, he discharged by the application of a fire-stick to the priming; when, the charge being rammed down with great force, the piece rebounded with such violence, as to cut his eye out, separate his jaw-bone, and fracture his scull: in consequence of which he died in a few minutes, a horrible spectacle.—Verdict, accidental death.

A most atrocious attempt at robbery and murder was made, on Saturday se'nnight, by two dragoons stationed at Taunton, on the persons of Mr. Matthews, butcher, of Trull, and his wife, as they were returning from market. After most inhumanly beating Mr. Matthews, the screams of his wife alarmed the villains, and they made off. They have not yet been apprehended.—*Taunton Courier.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, Nov. 29.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

Earl Camden presented the Report of the Physicians (*for which see the Commons*), which, after a motion to that effect, was read by the Clerk, twice.

Lord Liverpool, in a short speech, said, that under all the circumstances, he trusted there would be no objection to another delay, in the hope that the favourable circumstances of his Majesty's indisposition might render any further proceeding unnecessary. If, at the expiration of the period of adjournment, there should then be no prospect of his Majesty's speedy recovery, he should deem it his duty to propose the appointment of a Committee of the House for the purpose of examining the Physicians. He then moved that the House do adjourn to the 13th December.

Earl Spencer protested in the strongest terms against the adjournment. The delay was pregnant with danger, and he should therefore move to leave out all the words after the word "that," and to insert "a select Committee be appointed to examine the Physicians in attendance on his Majesty relative to the state of his Majesty, and to report the examinations to the House."

The Lord Chancellor was about to put the question, when

Lord Moira observed, that though he supported the former motion for adjournment, yet he could not now approve the proposed delay. They ought not to hold out to the people that the personal exercise of the Royal Authority was of so little consequence, that it might continue suspended from time to time without inconvenience.

Lord HARROWBY said, that before they proceeded *to set aside the Monarch*, it was impossible not to consider that it was the King of England, and that it was this King whose *benignant reign* it had pleased Providence to extend—

Lord GRENVILLE spoke to order. The Noble Lord had used the expression, setting aside the Monarch, at the bare mention of which their hearts must shrink with horror. It was surely incumbent upon the Noble Lord to name who had ever intimated or suggested so monstrous a proposition. He must protest against the use of such an expression.

Lord HARROWBY said, if the Noble Lord had waited to hear his argument he would have found that he applied it in this way, that the appointment of a Regency would necessarily for the time be to set aside the Monarch.—*(Cries of Hear, Hear! on the Ministerial side of the House, and No! No! from the opposite side.)*—His Lordship repeated the argument nearly to the same effect, when he was again called to order by Lord Holland. Lord Harrowby said, that however he might feel inclined to bow to the correction of the House, he was by no means disposed to submit to the censures of the Noble Lord. He believed references of the same nature had been frequently made before, nor did he perceive any irregularities in the language he had used, sufficient to render the interruption he had met with necessary.

Lord HOLLAND maintained that his Lordship was highly irregular. As to the motion before the House, he wholly disapproved of it,—he was astonished at it. Ministers asked for more time—more time for what? the only answer is, for prolonging the present calamitous situation of the country. A Bill of Indemnity might hereafter screen them from the personal consequences of their rashness, but nothing could rescue the country from the hazard of those perils which were collected and darkened around her.

Lord WESTMORELAND spoke for the original motion, and said, that it was an opinion sanctioned by precedent, that the Great Seal might be affixed during a suspension of the Royal functions, in cases of necessity.

Lord DARNLEY expressed his fears that by longer delay an experiment might seem to be made of the possibility of dispensing with the Royal functions, and a colour afforded to the specious insinuations of those whose object it was to degrade Royalty altogether.

Lord GRENVILLE deemed the proposition for delay derogatory to the dignity of Parliament, hostile to the best interests of the Monarchy, and repugnant to the principles of the Constitution. To vote for delay would be in him a base dereliction of duty. "I must say," continued his Lordship, "that of the Report that has been read, there is nothing positive or conclusive in the terms, either as they were asked or answered. The introduction of the word "amendment" is merely relative. You are not told of any amendment within any specified or probable time. There is not, my Lords, within this kingdom, to be found an ordinary magistrate who would act upon information in such manner communicated, without first ascertaining the fact upon full and proper grounds of evidence. But even though it were true and positive, it has not been ascertained by your Lordships, but by a Privy Council, whose very principles of action were in contradiction to the spirit and principles of the Constitution. What if it should also be the case, that such Council studiously confined themselves to a partial examination? Not so was the course pursued by those who advised the proceedings in the year 1788. My Lords, cast your eyes about you, and duly consider the critical situation to which your country stands. See yourselves incapable to communicate legal directions to your Generals, whether to improve victory or to retrieve disaster. Whether to pursue success, if success should fortunately be our lot, or to rescue our gallant army from aggravated sufferings, if defeat should be the melancholy consequence. Such is the state of things."

The LORD CHANCELLOR spoke in favour of the adjournment.

Lord ERSKINE denied the right of the House to keep the country without a Government for such a period: nothing could be more outrageous than such a conduct.

Earl STANHOPE was of the same opinion.

His Royal Highness the DUKE of SUSSEX felt it his duty to explain the motive of the vote which he should give that night. He had on a former day voted for the adjournment to this day, because this was the day to which his Majesty had himself designed to prorogue the Parliament. But now when it was further proposed to adjourn, he must declare that he should vote against it from considerations of attention to his Majesty. They would believe that he was most sensibly affected by the melancholy situation of the public affairs, and that he most fervently prayed for his Majesty's speedy and perfect recovery. But he could not vote for an adjournment in circumstances so imminent, and particularly, because he desired to know *who was to have the care of his Majesty's person?*

The House then divided on the Amendment, Contents 56—Not-Contents 88.

They then divided on the main question, Contents 88—Not-Contents 56.

The House is therefore adjourned to the 13th December.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Nov. 29.

The House met again this day.

Mr. Secretary RYDER said, they were now re-assembled under the same unhappy circumstances which prevailed at their last separation. The continuation of his Majesty's malady had rendered it impossible to take measures for opening the Session, proroguing the Parliament, or for transacting any other public business. In this state of things, the Ministers had assembled the Privy Council, and called the physicians before it to examine them with respect to his Majesty's health—a copy of which examination he now held in his hand. Having no means of communicating in any other way information equally authentic and accurate, he begged leave, having the permission of the Council for that purpose, to present this Report at the table, with a view to its being read by the Clerk.

The question that the Report be received was then put, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. RYDER accordingly presented the Report, which was immediately read by the Clerk.

"*Council Chamber, Nov. 28, 1810.*

"The Council being assembled, *Dr. Reynolds* was called in and sworn.

"Q. Dr. Reynolds is desired to acquaint the Council whether, in his opinion, the state of his Majesty's health does or does not continue to be such as to render his Majesty incapable of coming to Parliament, or of attending to public business?—A. *His Majesty is incapable in both respects.*

"Q. What hopes does Dr. Reynolds now entertain of his Majesty's recovery?—*Very confident hopes.*

"Q. Are Dr. Reynolds's hopes of his Majesty's recovery founded upon the experience he has had in diseases of the same nature, or on the particular symptoms in his Majesty's complaint?—A. *On both.*

"Q. Whether the greater number of persons affected with the particular species of the malady under which his Majesty labours do not ultimately recover?—A. *Undoubtedly the greater number are cured.*

"Q. Can you form any opinion as to the duration of his Majesty's illness?—A. *No.*

"Q. Whether the probability is that his Majesty will or will not recover?—A. I think the probability is that he will recover. Indeed *I am confident of it.* But this is to be understood with reference to the uncertainty that must always attach to medical predictions.

"Q. What experience have you had in complaints of this nature?—A. *An experience of forty years.*

"Q. Whether any amendment has taken place in his Majesty's health?—A. *His Majesty was better yesterday, and is*

better this morning than at any time since the commencement of his illness."

Sir Henry Halford was then called in, and the same questions were put to him, to which he made in general similar answers.—His Majesty was incapable of coming to Parliament, or of attending to public business—he thought it *probable* that his Majesty would recover, and founded his opinion, both on his general experience in maladies of this kind, and on the particular symptoms of his Majesty's complaint—he believed the greater number afflicted with the same species of the malady recovered—he could form no probable conjecture as to the duration of the malady—his Majesty's mental health had improved within the last 24 hours, though in point of bodily health he had become rather worse, but even in that respect he hoped he would soon improve—he had had considerable experience in the malady.

Dr. Heberden had the *greatest expectations* of his Majesty's recovery, both from the particular symptoms and his experience in maladies of a similar nature; and also on the improvement which had already taken place in his Majesty's health, on the INTEGRITY OF HIS FACULTIES, and the analogy to his former illness—he could not speak to the duration of the disease—an amendment had taken place and still continued—the greater number afflicted with the malady recovered—his experience in this disease was but little.

Dr. Willis had *confident hopes* of his Majesty's recovery, founded on the symptoms and his experience—the greater number of those seized with this species of the malady recovered ultimately—he could not state any precise period when the recovery would take place—he had had great practice in this complaint for twenty-two years—he considered his Majesty as amended—he was better when Dr. Willis left Windsor in the morning.

Dr. Baillie thought there was a *strong probability* of his Majesty's recovery—his opinion was founded on the particular symptoms—on his general experience—on a consideration that THERE WAS NO FAILURE OF HIS MAJESTY'S FACULTIES—on the *soundness* of his constitution—and on a reference to his former disorders—he could not speak to the duration of the malady—the greater number afflicted with it recovered—he thought the recovery, when it took place, would be perfect—his experience in this disorder was *not great*—his Majesty was better than he had been ten days ago—he was better this morning than he was yesterday.

The Report was ordered to remain on the table.

Mr. PERCEVAL was persuaded that the House must have derived great consolation in hearing that his Majesty's Physicians were unanimously of opinion, that there was a great *probability* of the King's recovery, and that his Majesty, notwithstanding the advanced period of his life, would recover in sufficient energy to discharge the high duties of his station. As to the *duration* of his Majesty's illness, the Physicians had given their opinion with caution; they could not exactly state the period. Drs. Heberden and Baillie were of opinion that his Majesty's illness would not be of long duration. From the Report of the Physicians the House would derive the most pleasing assurance of his Majesty's progressive amendment.—With this information before them—with the *moral certainty* of his Majesty's *recovery* from his present indisposition—with the confident belief that that recovery would be attended by a complete restoration of the *vigour* of his Majesty's mind and the *soundness* of his constitution—with the assurance that a considerable amendment had already taken place in his Majesty's health, although with an uncertainty as to the period when his complete convalescence might be expected—with all these impressions, the House had now to determine whether it would be proper for them to take immediate steps to supply the deficiency in the exercise of the royal authority, or whether it would not be more expedient, with a view also to *give a facility* to the speedy recovery of his Majesty, to pause and to allow a further interval, while an expectation—a hope—or even *a chance* appeared, of the accomplishment within that interval of an event so desirable? In proposing to the House these two questions, he might be allowed to say that their present situation was one of extreme calamity, and deeply to be lamented. Under such circumstances, he did not presume to suppose that he could offer any proposition that would be free from objection, but he did think that the House could not act in a way more consonant to their own feelings, and to the feelings of the country, than in the temperate exercise of their discretion, to allow a further interval, during which the expectation which had been cherished might be happily realized. With this hope, he should recommend another adjournment for fourteen days; feeling that that might be a very important period, and that during that period the *accomplishment of the object* for which the House and the Country so ardently prayed, *required that the subject should be agitated as little as possible.* He was free to declare, however, that at the expiration of the period to which he recommended the House to adjourn, unless such an amendment should take place in his Majesty's health as to afford a reasonable *hope* of his *speedy recovery*, he should not consider it consistent with the public interest farther to delay taking Parliamentary steps to supply the deficiency in the Executive Government.

Mr. WHITBREAD observed, that by the Report delivered in by the Secretary of State it appeared, that after an interval of many weeks, his Majesty was still wholly incapable of attending to public business. The Physicians were also unanimous in fixing on no period as that of the probable termination of his Majesty's disorder. In what situation the House and the country stood, when the King became incapable of discharging the high and important duties of his station, would be best described in the words of Lord Camden, who, on a similar occasion, declared, "that the whole functions of the Executive Government were thereby suspended." When the House last met, the Right Hon. Gentleman then founded his proposition for adjournment on the circumstance of his having just returned from Windsor, and of his being enabled to declare, "that his Majesty was in a state of progressive amendment." Again the Right Hon. Gentleman had used the same consolatory but delusive words. But was it not evident, from the Bulletins themselves, that on the evening of the 15th, at the very moment that the Right Hon. Gentleman was talking in that House of the "progressive amendment" of his Majesty, his Majesty's malady had considerably increased? He might justly enter a protest against some of the proceedings of the Privy Council, and particularly against one of the questions, which, in his opinion, ought not to be asked. But he particularly insisted on the absurdity of using the term "progressive amendment," when one of the Physicians (Dr. Baillie) had expressly said, that "during the last ten days," his Majesty was better; necessarily excluding the day on which the Right Hon. Gentleman had declared that his Majesty was in a state of "progressive amendment;" and distinctly implying that he was worse before that period of ten days. The fluctuation of his Majesty's disorder was hereby rendered evident, and not seeing a probability that in the interval proposed his Majesty's would be so far recovered as to be capable of exercising all those royal functions which, at a time like the present, was so necessary should be duly exercised, he should on that ground alone divide the House on the present question, and call for an examination of the Physicians by a Committee, as a prelude to further proceedings. He was persuaded that his Majesty would scorn to be told, that in consulting his delicacy they did not hesitate to bring the high office, by the due discharge of the duties of which his Majesty had made himself so beloved, into disrepute. He would ask, could any act of authority be promulgated throughout these realms, to which, in the present circumstances, obedience was due? Was there a seat of justice? Was their a fountain of mercy? Could an army be commanded? Could an army be recalled? Could reinforcements be sent to Lord Wellington? Could an unfortunate culprit be pardoned? Did his Majesty's Ministers wish to persuade the House of Commons to connive at the extinction of the Royal Authority? They would not dethrone the Monarch, but they would take the crown from the Constitution. To insure obedience, protection must be insured. Where was that protection at the present moment?

to his Majesty's Ministers? If so, they were Regents. Could they even legally convene the Privy Council? Might not any other Privy Councillors assemble that body, and for any other purpose? It was unquestionably most unfortunate, that after the experience of the evils and dangers of 1788 and 1789 some remedy had not been adopted to provide against the recurrence of such an exigency. There had been since two melancholy instances, the one in 1801, the other in 1805, of a derangement in the royal mind. Out of a mistaken delicacy, and in the culpability of which he could not deny his full share—no step of a prospective nature had been taken. There were many circumstances in our situation in 1788 materially different from the present. His Majesty was then in full vigour of health; he was not far advanced in years—he was accessible to all— e could shew himself to his loving subjects,—he could repair to the metropolitan cathedral of the kingdom, there to return thanks to Providence for his recovery, and by all these means convince the people that that recovery was genuine and complete. Unhappily, however, his Majesty had lately been afflicted with a calamity—*the deprivation of sight*, which rendered him inaccessible to his subjects, which rendered him *inaccessible to the knowledge of passing events, except through the medium of others.* He was advanced in years, and was *more in the power of other men than he had been before.* These considerations had been last year painfully forced upon the attention of the Public by his Majesty's Ministers, who made his Majesty's calamity the ground of his inaccessibility to his subjects. Let the House seriously consider these things, and let those who could do so, vote for an adjournment.

Mr. YORKE asked whether it could be contended, if the existence of the malady should be of short continuance, which there was every reason to hope, that great inconvenience must not arise from the very circumstance of substituting for this short period another person in lieu of the reigning monarch? Suppose that the person so substituted might change the system of government pursued by the reigning monarch—suppose it possible that the Regent should be so *ill-advised as to overset the system pursued by the reigning Sovereign*, would it not be an evil, that on his return to the discharge of his Royal Functions, he should find all his measures overturned, and a totally different plan, which he did not feel equally conducive to the interests of his country, or to his relations with Foreign States, substituted in its place? Suppose, for instance, that a Regent were to be appointed on the present occasion in this country, and that he were to abandon the interests of Spain and Portugal, and to consign them to their fate, would it not be a great inconvenience on his Majesty's recovery, and on his coming to resume his authority, that he should find those two countries abandoned? Whatever opinion as to the measures now to be pursued any man might entertain, it must give satisfaction to every one to find, that though his Majesty was not at present capable of attending to public business, yet there was little or no doubt as to his *perfect recovery*, and there were already symptoms of amendment. This was sufficient to induce the House to agree to an adjournment.

Mr. PONSONBY opposed the adjournment.

Sir F. BURDETT said, that whatever the feelings of the people might be for the King, the feelings which all must entertain for the dangers of the country must be much greater. He begged the House to consider that it was on the Minister's assertion only, and the flimsy examination of the physicians, that they were about to grant the Sovereignty of the country to the Right Hon. Gentleman. He could not agree that he should have the Government of the country: the emergency should be provided for at once. Things could not be allowed to remain in their present state. The arguments adduced on the idea of delicacy were most absurd. Delicacy was very well at a tea-table, but to talk of it in the affairs of the nation was contemptible, particularly if that nation was cruelly loaded, as this was. It was at once absurd and mischievous to talk of delicacy when the country was sinking in the hands of a set of men who had wounded it in so many parts. In some cases delicacy might be called roguery; and on some occasions, it was necessary to break through it, even with respect to females. In the case of a Queen's lying-in, where the greatest delicacy might be supposed necessary, certain things were done which might be considered as indelicate. Though the precedent of the year 1788 had been referred to, in his opinion it should be looked at only to be avoided. It was a precedent without principle, and an analogy without reason. Yet such as it was, the Right Hon. Gentlemen opposite seemed only desirous of taking as much of it as a precedent, as suited themselves, and enabled them *to keep their places*; no doubt, from pure and disinterested motives! Whoever ought to be Regent, he would not take upon himself to dictate either to the House or to the Country; but something ought to be determined on, and he would not consent to the present ruinous system of delay and trial. If the precedent of 1788 was wise at that time, it was not so now. We were then at peace, now we were at war. France was then weak, now it enjoyed an overwhelming strength. Then our national debt was under 300 millions, now it exceeded 800 millions. At that time the Public Revenue exceeded the Public Expenditure by almost a million and a half—now the Expenditure exceeded the Revenue by 20 millions! At that time Ireland was not rankling with wounds and with neglect; we had then concluded an advantageous treaty of commerce with France; we had prosperity and contentment at home, and nothing to apprehend from abroad. Yet now, that House was told, that after a month of anarchy, they were to go on a fortnight longer in the same tract. He trusted that the House would not separate, without concluding on something which would benefit the country, and expressed his utter disapprobation of the motion.

General MATHEW asked, if the House could any longer suffer this great and powerful nation to be governed by the present weak and ideotic Ministers?—(*A loud laugh*). He begged of the House to look at the Bench before them; ability they had none; character they had none; respectability they had none. (*Hear!* and *Order! Order!*) What County Member, or what man of landed property, was among them? To say the *best* of them, which he wished to do, they were a set of *second-rate lawyers!!* They had no farther care for the safety of the nation, nor any farther stake in it, than *a desire to keep their places!!* There was no responsibility to be found among them; and as to the confidence of the people, they never had and never could expect it! such men, he was of opinion, should never be trusted, and particularly at this juncture, when they left the country exposed to the attacks of an encroaching enemy, without an army to protect it, and who had paralysed the mental and physical energies of four-fifths of the Irish nation.

Lord MILTON could not consent that the country should continue longer without a Monarch, or that the Monarchy should be suspended, trusting to the Chapter of Accidents. Ministers seemed to think the functions of Royalty could be properly exercised by themselves. *It was dangerous to teach the Public that we could do without the King.* At present they were in this situation—there was no King, and the Kingly Power was exercised by a set of Gentlemen who *had been* Chancellor of the Exchequer, &c.—for he contended, that when the source whence their appointments emanated had ceased, all their offices were at the same time suspended. He therefore conjured the House to pause, before they acceded to a proposition which went to leave the Public a fortnight longer in that situation.

Sir T. TURTON was of opinion, the precedent of 1788 should be adopted on the present occasion, and an adjournment take place till Monday next, by which day Gentlemen would have had time to take the report of the Physicians into consideration.

Mr. C. W. WYNNE thought that an examination of his Majesty's Physicians before the House was not more indelicate nor likely to be attended with more ill effects, than before the Privy Council. It was the duty of the House to establish the fact of his Majesty's indisposition. He should therefore give his decided negative to the motion.

Mr. B. BATHURST supported the adjournment; as he be-

lieved the Council were actuated by good motives in adopting the mode they did, he was not disposed to censure it.

Mr. ADAM was decidedly against the adjournment.

Mr. WILBERFORCE was in favour of the adjournment, no person having pointed out any real, substantial evil which would arise from such a measure. Much had been said of delicacy towards his Majesty; instead of delicacy, he would substitute the word affection; and he was convinced not any Gentleman in that House but would be willing to consult the feelings of our venerable Monarch; and, on the other hand, after he had filled the Throne for upwards of fifty years, honoured and revered, there was a degree of delicacy due to him. We loved our King, because he loved us; and therefore we should be careful of doing any thing which would unnecessarily hurt his feelings.

Mr. FULLER.—"I never trimmed or juggled, and I'll not trim or juggle now. I vote for the adjournment on the promises of Dr. Baillie and Sir Henry Halford, honest men as I know them to be. What would we reason on in preference to simple facts,—facts stated by the ablest and most virtuous men in the nation? Will any man deny them? Will any man in this House be base enough to desert our poor, good old man in his adversity?—Bless me from that most poignant of all afflictions! an affliction to which every man, from the prince down to the subject, is liable.—Bless me, Gentlemen: *(A loud laugh)*, I feel for my King and my country—I never gave a vote against my conscience—I say it on my oath—Now, let you who laugh at me say as much—I never voted against reform; but to be sure that has nothing to say to the present question. *(A laugh.)* It may be ridiculous, Gentlemen, but I say, whoever *rats* now and runs away, may the Hon. Person to whom he runs not receive him. Whoever deserts the old King is the basest of human beings, of human creatures: I care not whether he be Prince or peasant; be he Prince or peasant that *rats*, I say, *Blow him from this Earth.*"

The Gallery was then cleared, and the House divided, when there appeared—For the Adjournment, 233—Against it, 129—Majority for Ministers, 104.

Mr. PONSONBY moved afterwards for a Committee to examine the Physicians as to the state of his Majesty's health, and report to the House upon its next meeting. On the division there appeared,—For the motion, 137—Against it, 230—Majority for Ministers, 93.—Adjourned till this day fortnight, December 13.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of the Echo, Dutch National Brig, of 8 guns and 45 men, two transports, and three piratical prows, by the Sylvia cutter, Lieut. Drury, in the Straits of Sunda. Owing to the obstinate resistance made by the prows, the Sylvia had eight men wounded; and in the action with the Echo, which maintained a sharp and close contest for 20 minutes, the English lost four men killed and three wounded.

Vice-Admiral Drury also transmits a List of Vessels captured by the ships under Capt. Tucker's orders, consisting of one armed ship, six brigs, four sloops, and 53 vessels of various descriptions, from former accounts since 8th December, 1809.

And Capt. Hotham, of the Northumberland, gives an account of the capture of the French privateer ketch La Glaneuse, of 14 guns and 85 men,—a fine new vessel, commanded by a Dane.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Bull, Ludge-row, warehouseman.
R. Beach, Market-street, Hertfordshire, dealer.
R. Child, Darlington, Durham, fellmonger.
J. Cheshire and J. Johnson, Birmingham, gun-barrel-makers.
J. Clifford, Fulneck, Yorkshire, and J. Jackson, Queen-street, Cheapside, merchants.
W. Dorrell, Colchester, plumber.
J. Grace, Botolph-lane, London, broker.
S. and W. Holland and T. Smith, Liverpool, merchants.
W. Hurwood, Babingdon, Essex, millwright.
D. Hewson, Wigan, and J. Barnes, Little Brampton, Cumberland, manufacturers.
J. Jacques, Holborn, composition manufacturer.
R. Kerry, Bucklersbury, warehouseman.
J. Keough, King-street, St. James's-square, tailor.
F. Millard and J. Lee, Size-lane, packers.
W. C. Nelson, Fetter-lane, tavern-keeper.
R. Nixon, Manchester, warehouseman.
T. Owen, sen. Topsham, shipwright.
W. Pilbeam, Worth, Sussex, millwright.
W. and W. Pollard, Bristol, merchants.
C. Price, Strand, umbrella-maker.
J. and C. Robinson, Liverpool, merchants.
R. Robinson, Clockheaton, Yorkshire, grocer.
M. Sutton, Tottenham-court-road, baker.
R. Travis, Manchester, silversmith.
O. Veale and R. Parsons, Barnstaple, brandy-merchants.
W. Winter, Pewsey, Wilts, shopkeeper.
W. Wilson, Fenchurch-street, merchant.
J. Willats, Gracechurch-street, warehouseman.
E. Willis, Stroud, draper.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the two following captures:—The Danneskoild cutter privateer, of two guns and 12 men, by the Wrangler gun-vessel, Lieut. Pettet;—and another Danish cutter privateer, of four guns and 30 men, by the Ranger sloop, Capt. Acklam.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

J. Millard, corn-factor.
E. Shaw, and J. G. Hitchcock, Bath, bankers.
R. H. F. Williams, Liverpool, merchant.
M. Wilson, Liverpool, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

G. Willis, Bath, upholsterer.
J. Pearson, Denholme, York, worsted-spinner.
H. Mancur, Maiden-lane, London, laceman.
S. Browne, Derby architect.
J. Brewerton, jun. Oxford, dealer.
J. Brook, Stow-market, Suffolk, cabinet-maker.
S. Hutchin, Wigan, Lancaster, skinner.
W. Wright, Manchester, grocer.
R. Tipping and G. Fleming, Holden Clough, York, calico-printers.
S. Showell, Lambeth, Surrey, music-seller.
J. Rogers, Strand, and T. Thomas, Charterhouse-square, merchants.
J. Hentsch, Holborn, haberdasher.
J. Kernot, Bear-street, Leicester-fields, druggist.
S. A. Simeon, Bristol, lace-merchant.
J. Barker, Sedgley, Stafford, nail-ironmonger.
J. Ouston, Sculcoats, York, grocer.
J. Wildey, Cheltenham, horse-dealer.
W. Lane, Manchester, victualler.
J. Easton, New Sarum, bookseller.
J. Caley, Liverpool, sail-maker.
P. Brown, Paul-street, Finsbury-square, baker.
A. and I. Samson, Crutched-Friars, merchants.
R. Gresty, Manchester, victualler.
J. Greig, Charles-street, Hampstead-road, baker.
J. Willats, Gracechurch-street, umbrella-maker.
R. F. King, Gracechurch-street, tobacconist.
A. Atkins, Finsbury-square, merchant.
J. Shearcraft, Gloucester-street, Queen-square, taylor.
G. Smith, High-Beech, Loughton, Essex, victualler.
T. R. Futcher, Sherborne-lane, Cannon-street, merchant.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. .....66 5/8 | Omnium.....5 1/4 dis.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor apologizes for the omission of the promised Criticism on Miss BOOTH, which will appear next week, together with Observations on the new Farce.

J. S. from Liverpool next week.

B. W., who objects to an "obnoxious paragraph" in last Sunday's paper, is informed that the Editor, in justice both to the object of that paragraph and to it's writer, intends to make some Observations upon it at large in a week or two, when it will either stand or fall according to the grounds of it's attack.

A Letter was written to Mr. O. who left his address at the Examiner-Office on Thursday; but from some mistake in that address, it could not find him.

J. M.'s DEFENCE OF CAPTAIN MASON shall appear next week.

The LETTERS of B. shall have an early insertion.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, DECEMBER 2.

No intelligence has been received from Lord WELLINGTON since the 12th; but a vessel, which was said to have left Lisbon on the 17th, and arrived in the course of the week at Bristol, spread a momentary report, that MASSENA was in full retreat, and Lord WELLINGTON in pursuit of him. This is only the due course of things. The French in Portugal have already deserted in numbers, been assassinated in numbers, been cut off from communication, been defeated over and over again, been famished for two months, been on the point of annihilation; and it is but decent that they should make a full retreat. It was proper also, that Lord WELLINGTON who had been driven from North to South into his last hold, should revenge himself in this way; and nothing remains to finish the narrative, but some little account of a panic at Madrid in consequence, and a few indifferent touches respecting the well-known certainty of Spanish emancipation. But what is the real amount of the British intelligence? It is mere assertion; and in default of all corroboration, we are begged to observe, that the Captain believed the account himself; saw 400 gun-boats go up the Tagus "for the purpose," he thinks, "of harassing the French in their retreat;" and in fine, "heard an immense firing on shore." The good Captain and the accomplished London Editors cannot conceive for what purpose gun-boats should go up a river but to harass a retreat; or how there can be any firing on a coast without defeat to the enemy. Unluckily, it appears that in the mean time DROUET had reached MASSENA with the reinforcements, amounting, some say, to ten thousand men, others to twelve, others to fifteen or twenty. A Letter also from MASSENA has been published in the French Papers, speaking in high terms of his situation and with contempt of the English fabrications; and whatever truth there may or may not be in this, for it is impossible to trust to either side in such statements, it is certain that he has gained a passage over the Zezere, fortified it, and thus opened a secure road to Spain. These are not the proceedings of an exhausted enemy. But contradiction on these occasions is as tiresome as comment is useless.

☞

The siege of Cadiz proceeds but slowly; but the French *are* proceeding against it, and with effect too. We have seen a letter from that city, of a late date, from a person well qualified to judge of the event, and he has fears that the French will shortly land on the *unprotected* part of the Isthmus, and occupy the Cotaduro battery, from which a few shot had driven the Spanish troops to the distance of a mile and a half! To make this lodgment, the French would first destroy the works of Puntales, against which they had already brought 50 guns and mortars, though they had not then opened their destructive fire. Success in this quarter would be fatal indeed, as it would enable them to prevent the retreat of the English troops (stationed at the redoubts, &c. at Isla) into the town. The French have built a number of gun-boats, from which, under the protection of their formidable batteries, it is thought they would be able to throw shells into the city. The English and Portuguese do not amount to more than 4000 men.

A Correspondent from Liverpool informs the *Examiner*, that by accounts just arrived from America, the people of New York were inclined to trust neither to France nor to Great Britain; but believed, that if the American Government has received official information of the Berlin and Milan decrees being annulled, a Non-intercourse Act against this country and her colonies will be the consequence.

In the Court of King's Bench, yesterday, *Croker*, a Bow-street patrole, obtained £80 damages against one Hammond, a publican, for an assault, in which the plaintiff has suffered considerably.

HUGH DOHERTY, ESQ.—This Gentleman appeared in Court on Tuesday for the purpose of entering into a recognizance to preserve the peace, upon the complaint of his wife, who had exhibited articles of the peace against him. His Counsel, Mr. MARRYATT, recited several cases, to shew that the Court had, on former occasions, ordered inquiry to be made into the *truth* or *falsehood* of the articles, and he hoped the Court would do so in this instance, as his client asserted that the articles exhibited against him were utterly *false*.—Lord ELLENBOROUGH, however, was of opinion, that the Court could not go into such an inquiry; and therefore recognizances were entered into for two years.—Mr. DOHERTY here addressed the Court; his character, he said, was dearer to him than life, and he hoped he should be heard.—The Court observed, that it would not be regular to hear him on this occasion.—Mr. DOHERTY begged for one moment: he declared strenuously, that what he was charged with by his wife, he was as innocent of as his infant.—Being again interrupted by the Court, he bowed and retired, after observing that there was a Gentleman present who knew all about the matter. —There is a *mystery* in this case, which, it is said, will shortly be developed. Mr. DOHERTY is, unquestionably, either a most abused Gentleman, or a despicable character: and if what is reported be true, the former is the light in which he is entitled to be viewed.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

MEDICAL BULLETINS.

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 24.—Eight o'clock, P. M.*

"His Majesty has been in a sound sleep for the last 6 hours."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 25.*

"His Majesty has passed a quiet night, with some more sleep, and is better this morning."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 25, 1810, eight o'clock, P. M.*

"His Majesty is not quite so well this evening as he was in the morning."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 26.*

"His Majesty has had very little sleep in the night, but is not worse this morning."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 26, Nine o'Clock, P. M.*

"His Majesty has continued nearly the same throughout the day."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 27, 1810.*

"His Majesty has had between two and three hours sleep in the night, and is this morning much the same as yesterday."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 27, Nine o'Clock, P. M.*

"His Majesty has been rather better throughout this day."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 28, 1810.*

"His Majesty has had some sleep in the night, and upon the whole is much the same as he was yesterday."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 28, 1810, nine o'clock, P. M.*

"His Majesty is not quite so well this evening as he was in the morning."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 29, 1810.*

"His Majesty has passed a quiet night, and appears rather better this morning."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 29, Eight P. M.*

"His Majesty is not quite so well this evening as he was yesterday."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 30, 1810.*

"His Majesty continues much the same to day as he was yesterday."

"*Windsor Castle, Nov. 30, Eight P. M. 1810.*

"His Majesty has had some hours sleep in the course of the day, and appears better this evening."

"*Windsor Castle, Dec. 1, 1810.*

"His Majesty has not passed a very good night, but is much the same as he was yesterday."

His MAJESTY, it is said, will shortly remove from Windsor to the Queen's Palace, for the convenience of the Physicians.

SIR VICARY GIBBS *versus* THE EXAMINER.

[FROM THE STAMFORD NEWS.]

"'Tis all a libel Paxton, sir will say."—POPE.

Notwithstanding we have at present an Attorney-General who feels it to be his duty to suffer scarcely a day to elapse without instituting a prosecution against some or other political writer,—notwithstanding we enjoy all the benefit of this officer's exemplary vigilance,—it is still, perhaps, allowable in us to suggest, that the *Liberty of the Press*—in other words, the right to discuss the character of public measures, is not only recognized by the British Constitution, but is even inwoven with it. However hardy such an insinuation may on some accounts appear, we are emboldened to venture it from the circumstance, that our lawyers and men in place are most forward to express, by words, their respect, approaching to veneration, for freedom of discussion.—We are bound implicitly to accept the sincerity of these professions, notwithstanding the opportunities selected for making them are chiefly when pursuing to fine and imprisonment persons, who, pleased with the doctrine, are silly enough to reduce it to practice. We have heard of *Judas* using the symbol of love to give effect to the purposes of destruction; but it would be a something approaching to blasphemy to suppose that such conduct is pursued by those, who, as the *Red Book* informs us, are all honorable, and some of them right honorable men. Sir Vicary Gibbs, in the short space of eighteen months, has filed *three* criminal informations against the *Examiner*, a Sunday paper, the editor of which is in the habit of considering political questions in a more enlarged manner, and more in the spirit of real impartiality, than is usual. Three times, within the period mentioned, has our insinuating Attorney-General, who is known but to be loved, and who is loved most by those who knew him best,—three times has Sir Vicary Gibbs lodged his information against the *Examiner*,—and twice (as the *Morning Post* would say relative to a lying report from Portugal) has his information proved *incorrect*, and the *Examiner* been declared without spot or blemish, or any such thing. The third attempt is yet *in limine*, and whether it will prove more successful than its predecessors remains to be seen. Now, to be sure, Sir Vicary would feel himself mightily offended were any one to doubt that *he* also is a friend to the freedom of discussion; we feel confident, that, were he referred to, he would have no hesitation to assure us, in the most positive and open manner, that he liked the liberty of the press vastly; in fact, that no man would be more ready than himself to admit the right, although, relative to the manner of its being exercised, he is very difficult to please. The trifling circumstances of Sir Vicary's having *twice* attempted, within a few months, in the case of one print, to bring down a heavy punishment on a writer who had committed no crime, but that of doubting the infallibility of those who have made our Attorney-General what he is,—the circumstances of his having twice pursued to the doors of a prison an *innocent* writer, following these repeated instances of disappointed vengeance, with a *third* attack, "e'er the shoes were old" which bore Mr. Hunt triumphantly from the hall of judgment, after being declared guiltless by his country,—this circumstance cannot, perhaps, be fairly taken as a proof that the prosecutor in favour of the Ministry is animated by hatred, rather than by friendship, towards the exercise of a right, which, on the reason of the thing, we may believe to be sufficiently annoying to his masters. It is dangerous, however, in these times, to meddle with deductions; the fact is as we have stated it, and let the reader draw his own conclusion; we should think it will follow with sufficient ease. Some, indeed, are of opinion that Sir Vicary's conduct towards the *Examiner* betrays too much of the *determination to punish*; these reiterated attacks, in defiance of former disappointments, however they may proceed from good and public motives, possess some of the features of vindictiveness;—it might perhaps have been more decent, such persons argue, if something like that liberality of sentiment which leads to the reparation of an injury, rather than to its aggravation, had been shown. It does, indeed, at first sight appear, that a man has reason to complain who is twice prosecuted without having committed any transgression, and that prosecuting him a third time is more like smiting him on the other cheek, than healing the wound

already inflicted without cause.—Sir Vicary, however, so far from conceiving that the *Examiner* has any claim on his forbearance on account of what is past, is even now sharpening his legal knife and preparing the blow which is to consign the object of his vengeance to destruction, unless he shall be a *third* time rescued from the attack, and his enemy be a *third* time convicted of having, as prosecutor to the Ministry, accused of crime an innocent individual.

But Sir Vicary's wrath, even when opposed by a Jury's verdict of acquittal, is by no means so trivial a matter as some people may imagine. No; our Attorney-General is much too great a man to put himself in a passion for nothing. The *Examiner* has acquainted the public that the price of being informed against and found innocent is about *One Hundred Pounds*;—a very trifling sum to pay for so endearing a piece of pleasantry. It appears, then, that the Attorney-General has it in his power, by instituting prosecutions, to inflict fines *ad libitum*, on noxious individuals, to the amount of one hundred pounds, and this, although they have not committed any thing like a crime.—These fines are levied in the shape of legal expences, which must be incurred before you can even *allege* your innocence. Who but a Jacobin can see any thing hard in this? Who but a libeller will assert that it is unjust? Sir Vicary, the reader perceives, has only to file plenty of informations, and his work is done, independently of the verdict of a Jury, or rather in direct opposition to such verdict. This is quite in the spirit of the British Constitution; it is quite consistent with liberty and property, the security of which is the boast of the Constitution, that Mr. Hunt and his brother should, at the pleasure of a lawyer paid by the Court, and whose views and wishes must consequently have a certain bias, be amerced in the sum of one hundred pounds, and this not once, or twice, or thrice, but as often as the aforesaid hired lawyer shall be pleased to institute proceedings against them. It may be said, that by a person of Sir Vicary Gibbs's proverbial mildness of disposition, who has but one fault, that of being too mild for his office, whose beneficence of temper beams in his face—who is loved by his brethren at the bar, as one who softens professional contention with the utmost urbanity of manner,—it may be said, that by such a one, the power already described is not likely to be abused. Very true;—but let us suppose, only for the sake of *the argument*, that Sir Vicary Gibbs was direct the *reverse of this*. It certainly is within the scope of possibility, that an Attorney-General might not be so very amiable a personage. Let us suppose him what is commonly called an ill-conditioned being; his official animosity aided by natural rancour; his visage forming an index to the virulence of his mind; hated in private and professional intercourse—let us suppose him one of this stamp, and then let us enquire whether there is any danger in granting to his accusation such formidable consequences? It follows, that we, the proprietors and editors of newspapers, are entirely at the mercy of a man who is ignorant of the feeling—that by—not illegal conduct on our part—but by the lawful exercise of a right, we may be absolutely *ruined*.—If one information will not effect this, more may be had recourse to, until the best established property sink under the load. What matters it that a Jury of our country pronounce us innocent, our attorney steps in with his bill, and inflicts the penalty due to guilt.—The King pays no costs, and his prosecutor can compel us to incur them; and so we have the anomalies of innocence punished, and injustice succeeding.

We blame Bonaparte's tyranny, certainly with much reason; and the English reader will probably by this time be of opinion that the proprietors of the *Examiner* must see as clearly as Count Zenobio, or Mr. Lewis Goldsmith, how much they are indebted to Providence, who has cast their lot, not in France, but in a land where they have twice already paid one hundred pounds for being found innocent, and are, we hope, in a fair way of making a third payment of a similar sum on a similar account. It is not long since Lord Ellenborough took occasion to declare to a Jury that he "was as much a friend to freedom of discussion as any man who ever sat in his place." The declaration, considered as a pledge by which his Lordship submitted that his conduct should be tried, was a noble one. There are, however, some who think—and among them are men whose judgment and motives do not warrant contempt—that Lord Ellenborough, in his exalted situation of Chief Justice, and in his professed character of a friend to the freedom of discussion, might, by interfering to hinder an Attorney-General from ruining innocent men, do much to obviate reasonable discontent, and to silence those, if any such there are, who would take advantage of existing evils to introduce worse. The writer of this article, who has conducted the *News* since its commencement (he can safely say, with honest views, whatever may be the measure of his ability), is, as he has already expressed himself, as determined an enemy to tumult as to oppression, and did the times demand it, those efforts which he now levels against abuse, should be directed to the attack of sedition. The Constitution of his country he venerates, and would willingly become the *victim* of an unsuccessful attempt to restore it to its original, but confessedly alloyed, purity. In this sentiment he is cordially sustained by him who has more immediately to bear the weight of the concern, as well as to enjoy its advantages; and it is not the fretfulness of an Attorney-General, nor, they will add, the operation or law, which declares *truth*, if spoken against a bad Minister, a *libel*, that can make them swerve from the unity of their purpose.

With a reference to the subject in discussion,—it is impossible that, by any combination of ideas, a rational mind can reconcile it with justice that a punishment should be inflicted on him who is guilty of no transgression: and when men in official situations either commit or connive at an act of gross injustice—an act at which a plain understanding and a decent moral feeling revolt—they do, in fact, pander to discontent: for a people not to be discontented under such circumstances, would argue them debased; in fact, discontent becomes their duty, and Mr. Fox would add, that resistance becomes a mere question of prudence. This doctrine, however it may be branded as jacobinical or seditious,—however it may be run down by the virtuous men in the pay of Government, whose private conduct forms so edifying an illustration of the motives which actuate their public labours,—has, nevertheless, reason and common sense in it. This, with a proper degree of respect, we would submit to Lord Ellenborough; and must even venture to recommend to his Lordship, as a man of strong judgment and great opportunities,—to address himself in his judicial capacity as much as possible to the conflict of mind, and to regard the victories of power as beneath the dignity, if not of his office, at all events of his character.

SIR RICHARD PHILLIPS.

Sir,—The inclosed Letter was sent to Mr. Cobbett on Friday last, with a request that it should appear in his *Register*, or state that it was inadmissible; but as this great man has treated my communication (perhaps as it deserves) with silent contempt, it is at your service, if you think it worthy of a corner in the *Examiner*.

TO MR. COBBETT.

Sir,—The last time I addressed you was respecting an assertion of Sir Richard Phillips, and if you had not thought fit to eulogise this man's character, I should never have thought of again troubling myself with so worthless a subject. The assertion I allude to was made by this honourable Knight, when in a witness box, and consequently upon his oath. I stated in my Letter to you a series of facts, which proved that what he asserted was false; and I think that even you, his friend and eulogist, must believe my statement to be true, as it remains uncontradicted to this hour.

You surely cannot have forgotten this Letter, and you must have heard of the transaction of the *Irish Bills*. Now, how a man in possession of these notorious facts could confidently assert that he knew nothing "but good of such a character," must be a matter of astonishment to every thinking person, and a source of pity to your admirers, if any still remain.

It is far from my wish to take up your time with vague assertions without proof, which I think unmanly, when the character of a fellow being, however despicable, is concerned. I shall therefore briefly reply to your article by stating a few facts, which I think will place the character of the Knight in a clearer point of view than what you have favoured your readers with on the subject.

You commence your article in a very moving manner, and as soon as your nervous system has resumed its wonted tone, you are candid enough to inform us that you have not even seen the article in the Sunday Paper that gave birth to the Knight's far-famed epistle. With all due submission to you as a man of reputed talents, I conceive it to be your duty as a Journalist to inform yourself minutely upon every subject you discuss; and in this instance you have laid yourself fairly open to the judicious remarks of the "Edinburgh Annual Register:" that you treat all subjects with the same confidence whether you understand them or not, and dash forward right or wrong."

Be assured, Sir, if the Knight is fool enough to appear again before Lord Ellenborough, complaining of a libel, there are many men who do not make so great a fuss about the Liberty of the Press as you do, yet are decidedly with a great writer, "that they who conceive that our Newspapers are no restraint upon bad men, or impediment to the execution of bad measures, know nothing of this country." Men with this proper feeling will never allow the Editor of any Newspaper to be annoyed by such a character as Sir Richard Phillips, when they can name twenty persons who can prove every word in the article to be true. You tell us that you KNEW what Sir Richard says about his pecuniary matters to be true: you surely could not make such an assertion without inquiry into the state of his affairs; and your informant must have instructed you of the Knight's mode of calculating the value of his stock, unless it was his interest to deceive you.—Now, allow me to ask you, most candid Sir, if you were to sell Budd all your stock of Registers, Trials, Peter Porcupines, &c. would you have the conscience to demand of the poor devil the regular trade price, with a discount of ten per cent. to cover dirty and imperfect sets, &c.?

You must recollect the day when you went round to the different publishers in London, Sir Richard Phillips not excepted, reminding them that there were such things as waste paper articles in the best of stocks; and I dare say you successfully proved that there were such things, by their presenting many a volume gratis, and selling many more at waste paper price, to the new American College you were then patronizing. You must also know that the Knight was a publisher of ponderous quartos, such as the Life of Chaucer by your good friend Godwin, and French Travels by the deceased Holcroft, &c.: many of these splendid works must still remain, of which the Knight boasted he had printed thousands.

You must likewise be well aware that your friend's stock will share the fate of Brodum's Vegetable Syrup; when it changed proprietors, it was never heard of after the Doctor ceased his puffing. The Booksellers of London and Westminster are well aware of this, and will act accordingly. They also know, if he can "ride out the storm," that he will pirate every one of his copy-rights; and if it were not taking up too much time, I would state Longman's case, which would prove the truth of this assertion, for there is nothing too mean for this man to accomplish.

Now, good Mister Cobbett, you must have been nodding when you tells us that you *know* what Sir Richard Phillips states respecting his pecuniary matters to be true; I as confidently assert, for the reasons assigned, that his statement is fallacious; and it is neither your declamation without argument, or Gillet's assertion without proof, that will convince me or any plain man of business to the contrary.

Over-enterprize, to which the bookselling trade is liable, is stated to be the cause of the Knight's present embarrassed situation: however, notwithstanding the liability to embarrassment, we have never yet seen the names of Cadell, Longman, Dilly, &c. in the Gazette. The truth is, these men have property to lose, and are therefore prudent in their speculations: but the Knight resembles a friend of mine, an underwriter, when he first appeared at Lloyd's; he took every risk that was offered to him:—in the course of a few years he became very cautious, and being asked the reason, he candidly confessed that at first he had nothing to lose, but now he had realized a considerable sum of money, and was not inclined to be deprived of it. So it was with Sir Richard Phillips, for he came from Leicester even with a borrowed name, and he has been speculating ever since on the capital of his creditors, who will also have the honour of defraying the expences of his Shrievalty, in which he acquitted himself so much to your satisfaction.

As to the Knight's "everlasting industry," I know nothing, but I can bear witness to his everlasting and unequalled assurance: he has hitherto found it easier to get on "without a shirt," than with a bad name, as he has proved by his practice; and unless he can again change it, there is no chance of his deceiving the public a third time.

With respect to the "Knight's talents," I allow he rivals Dr. Solomon in framing an advertisement and title-page, and he has even manufactured some things that have equalled the "Guide to Health," in point of sale and respectability; but as to the detail of business, I never met

with a man more ignorant, as any one who has done business with him will testify.

The solemnity of the commencement of your article is admirably relieved by the unequalled facetiousness of its conclusion; for I can never bring myself to believe that you would so far insult your readers, or so completely sacrifice your own common sense at the shrine of party, as seriously to say that Sir Richard Phillips, Knight and Bankrupt, was the Mecænas and Chesterfield of the age. I defy you, Mr. Cobbett, and all the Knight's friends, to name a single instance of a man who has degraded the literary character more, or whose general conduct has been more uniformly brutal to his dependants.

All this I could support by detailing facts within my knowledge, had not this Letter already extended too much; and I am heartily tired of the degraded character of its subject.

ECHO.

November 16, 1810.

LAW.

COURT OF KING's BENCH.

Monday, Nov. 26.

THE KING *v.* JOHN GALE JONES.

The defendant was brought up to receive judgment for a libel on Viscount Castlereagh.

Mr. Justice GROSE.—"J. G. Jones, you are to receive the sentence of this Court, convicted of having composed, printed, and published, of and concerning the Right Hon. Viscount Castlereagh, (who had been one of his Majesty's Secretaries of State) one of the most cruel, offensive, and malignant libels, which could be devised by one man concerning another, in which you have thought fit to charge his Lordship with acting in that high office from motives of ill-will towards a private individual, in such a way, as, *if it were true, no honourable man would permit himself to associate with the noble person libelled*; and *if false*, every person must hold in horror and detestation the person uttering it. In the address to the Court for mitigation, we look in vain for any thing which can extenuate your offence, or mitigate your sentence. You claim merit as having done what you did, as a friend to the freedom of the press. The best friend to the freedom of the press distinguishes between the freedom and the licentiousness of the press; he knows that the one is the greatest enemy to the other, and that nothing is so likely to bring into abhorrence that freedom, as the unrestrained and unpunished licentiousness of it. Our law, which is studious to protect the one, is attentive to punish the other; and were it not so, it is obvious that every good man's name and reputation (which are as dear to him as his existence) would be at the mercy of those miscreants, who, having no reputation to lose, delight in the destruction of that of others. Considering, therefore, the tendency of the libel; the peculiarly malignant and alarming mode of its publication; that there was not a colour of vindication, not any thing like mitigation of your crime—to correct you, and by your example to deter others from committing the same offence, this Court doth order and adjudge, that for this offence you be imprisoned in the House of Correction, Cold-bath-fields, *for twelve calendar months*; and the Court doth further order and adjudge, that for this offence, at the expiration of that time, you do give security for your good behaviour, for three years, yourself in 500*l.* with two sufficient sureties in 250*l.* each, and that you be further imprisoned until those sureties be given.

THE KING *v.* PETER FINNERTY.

Mr. CURWOOD stated that he was instructed to apply to the Court in that case, the defendant having had notice to appear to receive the judgment of the Court to day. He had an affidavit stating that Mr. Finnerty was confined to his bed by a fever. The Learned Counsel therefore humbly applied to their Lordships, that the recognizance might be respited till the next term.

The affidavit of John Stanton, of the Strand, Surgeon, was read, stating that he had attended Mr. Finnerty yesterday and this morning, when he laboured under a very severe fever, and that if he left his chamber his life would be endangered.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—"My Lord, I leave this entirely to the discretion of the Court."

Lord ELLENBOROUGH.—"Then we must respite the recognizance; it is sworn that he cannot be brought up now without peril to his life."

LIVERPOOL RIOTERS.

The persons found guilty of exciting the disturbances at the Liverpool Theatre were then brought into Court.

Mr. Justice GROSE addressed them.—They were found guilty of a very daring and outrageous breach of the peace, which might have been attended with the most extensive and alarming consequence in so populous and opulent a town as Liverpool. From the evidence on the trial, it appeared that the mode which they adopted to make the Managers comply with their demands, was rioting so as to stop the performance. In a country where every man might set his own value on his labour, and where no one man was compelled to accept it but according to what he thought labour worth, it was not to be allowed that riot should make any part of the dealing. The price might or might not be exorbitant; of that the Court were not sitting to judge; but those who did not like the price need not go to the performance. All the prisoners were highly culpable, but there was a difference in their crime. *Abraham Lemon* had been eminently culpable; he was, fortunately for himself, acquitted of the heaviest part of the charge, but his crime was increased in no common degree by his having published a most violent and improper paper, by way of vindication. *Rowlandson's* case called for peculiar severity. It might seem too much for a single offence to cut him off from all chance of following his profession, but he should have known what he was doing, and a second offence would force the Court to visit him more strongly than they were now disposed to do. The Court taking all the circumstances into consideration, would now order and adjudge, that *A. Lemon* and *C. Rowlandson* should be confined in the Castle of Lancaster for 12 months; *J. R. Molineux*, and *T. Turner*, for three months; *B. Wilson* and *M. Carter*, for two months each, in the same Castle of Lancaster.

ENCOURAGING ESCAPE of FRENCH PRISONERS.

Henry Proctor was brought up from Tothill-fields to receive judgment for being accessary to an attempt made by three French prisoners of war to escape. Affidavits were put in and read, which stated the motive that induced the prisoner to undertake so perilous an office. From these it appeared, that having been detained himself a prisoner in France, and obtaining his liberty on the express condition that he would favour the escape of a Frenchman from this country, he ventured to make the attempt, but was detected.—Mr. BARRY addressed the Court in his behalf, and their Lordships, in consideration of his former sufferings, instead of imposing a heavy punishment, ordered him to be imprisoned six months, and to give security for his good behaviour for five years; but their Lordships signified, that if his future conduct merited consideration, that a memorial, signifying that fact, would be attended to, in remission of the latter part of the sentence.

Wednesday, Nov. 28.

THE STATESMAN AND DAY NEWSPAPERS.

This day *Daniel Lovell*, the printer and proprietor of the *Statesman* Newspaper, was brought up to receive sentence.—The defendant handed up to the Officer of the Court a short representation, stating, that he had been on Wednesday afternoon served with a notice to appear on Thursday; that he passed Wednesday night in a small room, with five persons; that he spent a sleepless night, and had no sufficient opportunity of consulting with his Solicitor on the subject of the affidavits which he wished to offer in extenuation.—With respect to the libel on the Commissioners (of Income Tax, in which case Mr. Lovell had suffered judgment to go by default—that is, had confessed he was a libeller) he had offered every apology, sa-

ther as by a paragraph in the *Statesman*, or in any other sufficient way. He had sent an agent to wait on Mr. Hulme, one of the Commissioners; and that gentleman had professed himself satisfied with the submission. The same thing had been expressed by others, and it was hoped that all would be satisfied. He had heard that Cowdroy and Harrop, the Manchester Printers, were not prosecuted, and had hoped that this prosecution would have met the same fate with their's.—As to the libel on the Military, it was inserted when he was confined with severe illness, and could have had no means of preventing or reading it. He had had the misfortune to be troubled with an Editor, who left him in two days after the publication of the libel. The *Statesman* was always friendly to the Military, and he (Lovell) had the honour of being intimate with several officers of distinction.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH.—"The Court find nothing in that paper to delay the sentence."

Mr. Lovell.—"My Lord, a paper has been given to me in the Hall, whose value I know not, but which I beg leave to read. It says that *your Lordships cannot proceed to pass sentence upon me, while the prerogative of the Crown, to shew mercy, is suspended.*"

To this no answer was made; and Mr. Justice GROSE proceeded to pass sentence:—He said, that the libel was one of the most atrocious nature. It tended to misrepresent the conduct of the soldiery, in a season of great public tumult, and when their exertions were necessary for the public peace. The conduct of the soldiery had appeared on the minutest evidence to be most exemplary. The defendant had given the Court to understand, that the insertion of the libel was merely in the way of business: but the Court would tell printers and publishers, that it was their duty to read what they inserted, or they must sustain the consequences. As to the libel on the Commissioners, it was necessary that men should be protected from defamation who did a great public service without any recompense. If the prisoner did not personally know these gentlemen, his object was to sow public disaffection. But it was not easy to free him from the charge of personal malice, when he accused them of wishing to perpetrate abuses from which they were to derive profit. His apologies might or might not be accepted by the Commissioners. It was the cause of public justice. The prosecution was not by them, it was for the general good, and that men who did general service should find protection.

The Court then adjudged, that for the first libel the defendant Lovell should be confined in Newgate for 12 calendar months. For the second, 12 months also, beginning from the expiration of the preceding; and that he should find securities to keep the peace for three years, himself in 500l. and two sureties in 250l. each.

Messrs. *Harvey* and *Fisher*, the former the printer, the latter the publisher of the *Day*, were then brought up for the libel in that newspaper.

Mr. READER stated, that he had now an answer to make to the question which had been put, whether any apology had been made for the libel. An apology, in the form of a letter, signed "A Loyalist," had been made in three days after.

The paper, however, was not produced; and the Court, after some observations similar to the preceding, passed sentence, that the prisoners should be confined, each for twelve calendar months, in Newgate, and afterwards give securities for keeping the peace for three years, themselves in 200l. and two sureties in 100l. each.

THE HOTTENTOT VENUS.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, a rule had been obtained, calling on the present Keeper of the Female in question, to admit to the presence of the woman a person who understands the language spoken by her, in the absence of the keeper himself, and of every person in his employ accustomed to exercise any sort of controul over her, there being only present on the part of the keeper a person who also understands the language in which the woman could make herself understood, such person being a stranger to the woman. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, when he moved for the rule, stated, that he appeared for a Society (the African), which was ready to shew that an unfortunate being in the situation of this female could not be destitute of friends, while they remained, who were the general friends of humanity. They were ready to receive her, and to restore her to that country from whence she had been taken. The first affidavit on which this application was made, to which he called their Lordships attention, was that of Mr. Bullock, keeper of the Museum, Piccadilly, who stated, that a person named *Dunlop* informed him that he had lately arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, and wished him to purchase a skin of a camelopardalis. Mr. Dunlop told him that he had also brought with him a Hottentot woman, whom he had come under an obligation to restore in two years. He wished to have disposed of the whole concern (meaning the woman and the camelopardalis skin) at once, but having met with a person who purchased from him the property of the woman (he treating and disposing of her as his property), he then sold the skin of the camelopardalis to Mr. Bullock. Mr. Dunlop said the woman was a great curiosity, and that, if exhibited for the two years, she would make the fortune of the person exhibiting her. The affidavit went on to state, that Mr. B. had reason to believe that Cæsar was the person to whom Dunlop so disposed of the female in question, Cæsar, Dunlop, and she, going to reside in the same house together; and that Dunlop had since regretted that he had almost parted with his interest in her entirely; so it appeared that he used her as his property.

The affidavit of Mr. Macauley, Secretary to the [illegible]an Institution, on behalf of which Society he made t[illegible] application, stated, that this Gentleman went to the exhibition, where he found an elevated stage, with a re[illegible] out of which the female came, dressed in a thin tight dress, a[illegible] most the colour of her person, so as to make it appear as much as possible that she was naked. The person who had the custody of her said, that he had got her from the Cape of Good Hope, having procured her from some of the Dutch Boors, and that he had made an agreement with the Governor of the Cape for bringing her away. When he said this, Mr. Macauley, knowing Lord Caledon, asked if he had his consent? to wh[illegible] he answered in the affirmative. Of the manner of the exhi[illegible]tion it was unnecessary to enter into any description. It was sufficient to say, that this unfortunate female was shewn as any beast, and as a bear bound by a chain. Her keeper ordered her to place herself in any position he desired, and she was obliged to obey. That she was in a state of absolute controul, was apparent; but that she was happy, or comfortable, under her confinement, or was willingly so, it was equally plain was not the case. Though she could not converse with any one, it was impossible to observe her gestures—to hear her deep sighs—to mark the sullen reluctance with which, when exhausted, she complied with the mandate of her keeper to play on a musical instrument, and not to be satisfied that she was unhappy, uncomfortable, and under a system of restraint.

Mr. GAZELY this day shewed cause against the rule. That rule was for a Habeas Corpus to deliver up the Hottentot female out of the restraint in which she was supposed to be, and to allow certain persons speaking her own language to examine her. The Court would be informed that Cezar, the person alluded to in Mr. Bullock's affidavit, had been removed some time from the care of the Hottentot. If the Court should still think that this woman was treated with any thing like cruelty, his Clients were willing to give her up at once. She was actually to receive a share of the exhibition money, and those who shewed her were perfectly willing that the African Institution should appoint any sufficient person as trustee to take care of the property which was to be raised for her use. As to the indecency of her appearance, the Court would hear that she was clothed in a dress of cloth as well as silk. Yesterday an examination had taken place before an Attorney and Coroner of the Court. This examination took up almost three hours: the questions were put by persons who spoke Dutch, and no person immediately connected with the exhibition was present. The Hottentot said, she had left her own country when extremely young. She was brought down to the Cape by the

Dutch farmers, and served Peter Cozar. She then agreed with Hendrich Cezar, to come over to England for six years. She appeared before the Governor at the Cape, and got his permission. Mr. Dunlop promised to send her back rich. She was under no restraint. She was happy in England. She did not want to go back, nor want to see her two brothers and three sisters, for she admired this country. She went out in a coach on Sunday for two or three hours together. Her father was a drover of cattle, and in going up the country was killed by the Bashmen. She had a child by a drummer at the Cape, where she lived two years. The child was dead. She has two black boys to attend her, and would like warmer clothes. The man who shews her never comes till she is just dressed, and then only ties a ribbon round her waist.—To this the affidavit of a notary was added, who had read the agreement to her in Dutch, and thought she seemed to perfectly understand it, and pleased with the prospect of getting half the profits.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, the rule could not be sustained after those affidavits. This woman was plainly not under restraint, and the only effect of taking her from her keepers would be to let her loose to go back again. As to Lord Caledon's permission, it would have been wrong in his Lordship to have given it. But it should be known, that the Hottentots were supposed so incapable of managing their own concerns, that no contract among them was valid unless it was made before a Magistrate. This contract between the Hottentot and Cezar was made as usual; but when Lord Caledon discovered for what purpose, he was much displeased, and would have stopped the parties if they had then been in his power.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH.—"The rule cannot be sustained. If there be any offence to decency in the exhibition, that comes on in another way:—that may be the ground of a prosecution."—Rule discharged.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

The Lord Mayor on Monday fined a newspaper carrier for vending, on Sunday, the second edition of one of the Sunday newspapers. The Lord Mayor, in convicting the party offending, expressed his determination to take every means in his power to put an end to the custom of hawking papers about the streets on the Sunday. In this as in former cases, no news whatever had arrived, and the publication of the paper itself was therefore a gross fraud upon the public.

An Inquisition was taken on Friday at the Barley-Mow, Mount-street, on the body of Rebecca Harris, who was found drowned in the bason in Hyde park, on Wednesday. This was the second sitting of the Jury, and the case required their particular attention. It appeared in evidence that the deceased had left her sister's house on the evening of the 5th of November, accompanied by a young man whose addresses she had received. She was never seen after; and the young man informed the friends of the deceased, that she parted with him in a quarrel, and she was very likely drowned, and that he paid five shillings to have the Paddington canal dragged. There were other circumstances also for the Jury's consideration. The deceased was shockingly bruised, and she had lost a pocket. The Jury, after nine hours deliberation, returned a verdict—*Found Drowned*; which will give an opportunity for a Police investigation.

On Tuesday evening the house of Mrs. Tottenham, a lady of fortune, No. 54, Berner's-street, was beset by about a dozen tradespeople at one time, with their various commodities.—Waggons laden with coals from the Paddington wharf, upholsterer's goods in cart loads, organs, piano-fortes, linens, jewellery, and every other description of furniture, sufficient to have stocked the whole street, were lodged as near as possible to the door, with anxious tradespeople and a laughing mob. About this time the Lord Mayor arrived in his carriage, and two livery servants; but his Lordship's stay was short, and he was driven to Marlborough-street Police Office.—At the Office his Lordship informed the Sitting Magistrate that he had received a note purporting to come from Mrs. Tottenham, which stated that she had been summoned to appear before him, but that she was confined to her room by sickness, and requested his Lordship's favour to call on her.—Berners-street at this time was in the greatest confusion, by the multiplicity of tradespeople, who were returning with their goods, and spectators laughing at them. The officers belonging to Marlborough-street were immediately ordered out to keep peace. The scenes witnessed by the officers were; six stout men bearing an organ, surrounded with coal-heavers with tickets, barbers with wigs, mandrin-makers with band-boxes, opticians with their various articles of trade; and such was the pressure of the tradespeople who had been duped, that at four o'clock all was confusion.—Every Officer that could be mustered was enlisted to disperse the people; and they were placed at the corners of Berners-street, to prevent tradespeople from advancing towards the house with goods. The street was not cleared till a late hour, as servants of every denomination wanting places began to assemble at five o'clock. It turned out that letters had been written to the different tradespeople, which stated recommendations from persons of quality.—A reward has been offered for the apprehension of the author of this *hoax*, which exceeded by far that in Bedford-street, a few months since; for besides a coffin which was brought to Mrs. Tottenham's house, made to measure, agreeably to letter, *five feet six, by sixteen inches*; there were accoucheurs, tooth-drawers, miniature-painters, artists of every description; auctioneers, undertakers, grocers, mercers, post-chaises, mourning-coaches, poultry, rabbits, pigeons, &c. In fact, the whole street was literally filled with the motley group.—The following are a few of the notes sent in the name of Mrs. Tottenham, for the purpose of collecting this extraordinary assemblage:—

"Mrs. Tottenham requests Mr. —— will call upon her at two to-morrow, as she wishes to consult him about the sale of an estate.—54, Berners street."

"Mrs. Tottenham requests that a post-chaise and four may be at her house at two to-morrow, to convey her to the first stage towards Bath.—54, Berners-street, Monday."

"Mrs. Tottenham begs the Hon. Mr. ——— will be good enough to give her a call at two to-morrow, as Mrs. T. is desirous of speaking with him on business of importance.—54, Berners-street, Monday."

MARRIAGES.

Wednesday se'nnight, at Glutins church, the Rev. Mr. Megwin, of Camborne, to Miss Mary Ann Richards, of Penryn, with a fortune of 40,000*l*.

DEATHS.

Lately, Mr. J. Wharton, of Appleby Carr Side, Lincoln, aged 34:—when only 18 years of age he weighed 18 stone, and continued to increase in weight a stone each year till he was 30 years old. His coffin was so capacious, that a side of the house was taken down to permit its egress. A considerable farmer had not a waggon wide enough to hold this immense repository, which was six feet broad at the shoulders.

Lately, the Queen of France (as she was termed). Her funeral took place on Monday. The procession consisted of—Eighteen horsemen with scarfs—Two coaches and six—The hearse, drawn by six horses—Three mourning coaches and six—Ten mourning coaches and four—His Majesty's carriage and six—The Prince of Wales's carriage and six—The carriages of the six Royal Dukes, with six horses each—Thirteen carriages and pairs.—There were no escutcheons.—The procession reached Westminster Abbey about three. It was there received and interred with all due solemnity.

A few days ago, Mr. John Cope, who drove the mail from Bath, from its first starting, for upwards of 20 years. He was suddenly taken ill on the coach-box, and being taken into the Full Moon Tavern, Bath, died instantly.

Lately at Inverharity, Forfar, at the advanced age of 115, Christian Robertson, a poor woman.

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